

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 NEA-11 IO-13 PA-01 L-03 H-01
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10
NSAE-00 ICA-11 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01
OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 /118 W
-----033337 011350Z /47

R 010505Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3320
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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MANILA FOR USADB

FOR NAC AGENCIES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, ENIF, ADB
SUBJECT: PROPOSED ADB TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE
ESCAP-SPEC INDUSTRIAL SURVEY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

REF: MANILA 8682

1. EMBOFF HAS TALKED ABOUT PROPOSED PROJECT TO GPNG OFFICIALS
IN DEPARTMENTS OF FINANCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS WELL AS
THE NATIONAL INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. FINANCE
OFFICIALS APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF PROJECT. HIGH NIDA OFFICIAL
IS AWARE OF PROJECT BUT TO HIM IT APPEARED "A TYPICALLY
USELESS, EMPTY GESTURE OF THE TYPE USUALLY PUT FORWARD BY
ESCAP". HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPORTED
THAT PNG HAS OPPOSED THE PROJECT AT SPEC AND WILL ASK ITS
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REPRESENTATIVE AT THE ADB TO DO SO AS WELL. HE REPORTS THAT
AN INDUSTRIAL SURVEY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC HAS ALREADY BEEN
DONE BY THE COMMONWEALTH FUND OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION
FOR SPEC AND ITS REPORT IS DUE SHORTLY. HE SAID HE SAW
NO NEED FOR FINANCING "SOMEONE'S PAID HOLIDAY IN THE
SOUTH PACIFIC" UNTIL THEY KNEW THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST
SURVEY.

2. THE EMB'S OWN POSITION IS THAT THE PROPOSAL GRANTS TOO LITTLE RESOURCES TO DO TOO BIG A JOB. IF THE EMB'S UNDERSTANDING IS CORRECT, THE TOTAL PROJECT WILL INVOLVE \$158,000 AND 20-MAN MONTHS OF EXPERT SERVICES. THIS IS SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPLISH ALL THE GOALS LISTED IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL FOR SEVEN COUNTRIES. AT BEST, THE SPREADING OF RESOURCES SO THIN WILL MEAN THAT THE FINAL REPORTS WILL BE SO GENERAL AS TO BE OF LITTLE USE TO ANYONE. IN A DISCUSSION WITH THE LOCAL UNDP REP, AN EMBOFF WAS TOLD THAT SUCH SURVEYS ARE GENERALLY USELESS. EQUALLY LIKELY IS THAT THE EXPERTS WILL ATTEMPT TO GIVE FAIRLY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE BASIS OF INADEQUATE INFORMATION, CAUSING THE RECIPIENT NATIONS TO SPEND CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES TO DEVELOP INDUSTRIES THAT LATER TURN OUT TO BE UNECONOMIC. THIS HAS ALREADY HAPPENED IN PNG AND COULD DEVELOP WITH THIS PROPOSED SURVEY AS WELL.

3. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF THE ADB DELAYED FINANCING OF THIS PROJECT UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION'S SURVEY WAS MADE PUBLIC. ITS FINDINGS COULD THEN SERVE AS A BASIS FOR MORE DETAILED STUDIES IF NECESSARY.

4. THE EMB'S KNOWLEDGE OF ESCAP AND SPEC IS TOO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIMITED TO ALLOW US TO GIVE CONSIDERATION OF THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF A NEGATIVE VOTE ON THIS PROPOSAL. FROM AN ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW, HOWEVER, WE RECOMMEND NEGATIVE NAC ACTION.
OLSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: PORT MORESBY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806107/aaaadnxu.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2ece417d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: EAID, XP, ADB
To: STATE
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